

What is claimed is:

1. A decorative cover, comprising:

a cover member having an inner surface and an outer surface;

an optical fiber member having an input end and having a side surface adapted to transmit light therethrough; and

a light source adjacent the input end of said optical fiber member to emit light from said light source to said optical fiber member for transmission from the side surface of said optical fiber member along the length thereof;

said optical fiber member laid out in a pattern cooperating with said cover member to cause light to be visible through the outer surface of said cover member in the pattern when said light source is emitting light.

2. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member is adhered to the outer surface of said cover member.

3. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member is embedded in said cover member.

4. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member is adhered to the inner surface of said cover member.

5. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member is molded with said cover member.

6. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member comprises an optical fiber thread.

7. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said optical fiber member comprises an optical fiber panel.

8. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of light emitting devices, each adapted to emit light of a different color, and said optical fiber member comprises a plurality of optical fiber threads, the input ends of each thread being adjacent a respective one of said light emitting devices so that each thread transmits light of a different color.

9. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of light emitting devices, each adapted to emit light of a different color, and said optical fiber member comprises a plurality of optical fiber panel portions, the input ends of each panel portion of being adjacent a respective one of said light emitting devices so that each panel portion transmits light of a different color.

10. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said light source comprises a light emitting diode.

11. A decorative cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein said light source is positioned on said cover member.

12. A telephone, comprising a first cover member, a second cover member cooperating with said first cover member to define a telephone interior, and telephone components within the telephone interior and operable to permit telephonic messaging; an optical fiber member having an input end and having a side surface adapted to transmit light therethrough; and a light source adjacent the input end of said optical fiber member to emit light from said light source to said optical fiber member for transmission from the side surface of said optical fiber member; said

optical fiber member laid out in a pattern cooperating with one of said cover members to cause light to be visible through the outer surface thereof in the pattern when said light source is transmitting light.

13. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member is adhered to an outer surface of said one of said cover members.

14. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member is embedded in said one of said cover members.

15. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member is adhered to an inner surface of said one of said cover members.

16. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member is molded with said one of said cover members.

17. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member comprises an optical fiber thread.

18. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said optical fiber member comprises an optical fiber panel.

19. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of light emitting devices, each adapted to emit light of a different color, and said optical fiber member comprises a plurality of optical fiber threads, the input ends of each thread being adjacent a respective one of said light emitting devices so that each thread transmits light of a

different color.

20. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of light emitting devices, each adapted to emit light of a different color, and said optical fiber member comprises a plurality of optical fiber panel portions, the input ends of each panel portion being adjacent a respective one of said light emitting devices so that each panel portion transmits light of a different color.

21. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said light source comprises a light emitting diode.

22. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein said light source is positioned on said one of said cover members.

23. A telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
said telephone further comprises a mounting board within the telephone interior;
said telephone components are mounted on said mounting board;
said light source is mounted on said mounting board; and
said light source comprises a light emitting member and a light guide to couple light from said light emitting member to said optical fiber member.

24. A telephone as claimed in claim 23, wherein said mounting board comprises a printed circuit board.